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(54) Fault protection arrangements and methods for electric power distribution systems

(57) A fault protection arrangement for an electric power distribution system comprising:

- at least one power distribution bus;
- at least one power source line connected to the power distribution bus;
- a circuit interruption means in the power source line;
- a load line connected to the power distribution bus to supply power to a load;

a fault sensor in said load line;  
a switch in said load line; and  
control means responsive to detection of a fault in said load line by said fault sensor to cause the circuit interruption means in the power source line to open, then cause the switch in the faulted load line to open and then cause the circuit interruption means in the power source line to close.

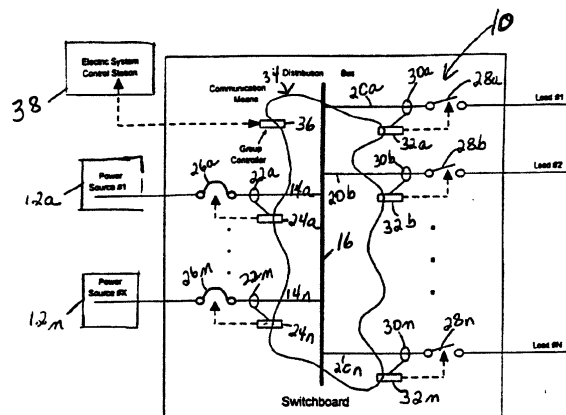


Figure 1 Fault Protection System Switchboard

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number  
EP 99 20 0880

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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search <b>MUNICH</b>		Date of completion of the search <b>12 March 2001</b>	Examiner <b>Roider, A</b>
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	
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<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone                      Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category                      A : technological background                      O : non-written disclosure                      P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention                      E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date                      D : document cited in the application                      L : document cited for other reasons</p> <p>.....                      &amp; : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

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